

Application No. 09/449,699
Response to Office Action

Attorney Docket No. 990723/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): K. TSUTSUMI et al

Serial No. : 09/449,699

Filed : November 24, 1999

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Art Unit : 2176

Examiner : William L. Bashore

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed
August 11, 2004 the term for response to which expires on
November 11, 2004 (Veterans Day), which is automatically
extended to November 12, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims are set forth in the listing of
claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Claims 1-11, 14-16
and 20 are canceled; claims 12, 13, 17, 19 and 21 are amended;
and claim 18 is maintained.

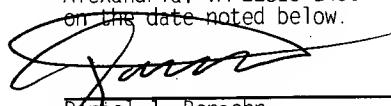
Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.



Customer No. 01933
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date noted below.


Daniel J. Bersohn

Dated: November 12, 2004

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by form PTO-2038 attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

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